

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02905 131401Z

67

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /093 W

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R 131224Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6653

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI REACTION TO EEC AGREEMENT

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

1. ISRAELI MEDIA HAVE DEVOTED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO MAY 11 SIGNING OF ISRAEL/EEC AGREEMENT BY FORNMIN ALLON. REPORTS AND EDITORIALS HAVE MENTIONED POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF AGREEMENT WHILE NOTING POSITIVE ECONOMIC BENEFITS AS WELL AS CHALLENGES. ACCOUNTS HIGHLIGHTED EUROPEAN WILLINGNESS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL AT TIME WHEN EUROPE AND ISRAEL ARE NOT IN ACCORD ON QUESTION OF ME PEACE PROCESS AND DESPITE ARAB PRESSURS. MAY 13 JERUSALEM POST EDITORIAL ENTITLED "COMMAN MARKET PROMISE" IS ILLUSTRATIVE AND BEGINS, "FOREIGN POLICY SUCCESSES HAVE BEEN FEW AND FAR BETWEEN FOR ISRAEL IN RECENT MONTHS" AND EC AGREEMENT "COMES AS WELCOME CHANGES". EEC'S "INDIGNANT REACTION OF BELATED AND RATHER CRUDE ARAB ATTEMPTS TO FOIL THE PACT WAS PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGING. IT GIVES GROUND FOR HOPING THAT LIMIT OF EUROPEAN SURRENDER TO ARAB PRESSURES HAS BEEN REACHED."

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2. COMMENT: ISRAELIS REGARD SIGNING EC AGREEMENT AS
IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT AND AS EVIDENCE THAT ISRAEL HAS
IMPORTANT FRIENDS, BESIDES US, WHO ARE WILLING TO STRENGTHEN
THEIR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS AT PRESENT
TIME. ISRAELIS CHARACTERISTICALLY NOT
CONTENT TO LET IT GO AT THAT,BUT CHOOSE TO EMPHASIZE
THAT ACTIONS WERE TAKEN IN FACE ARAB OPPOSTION.

END LOU
VELIOTES

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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